

CLUSTER: FAMILY-CENTERED SERVICES

OBJECTIVE: Outcomes for infants and toddlers and their families are enhanced by family-centered supports and systems of services

Notes:

- Components and indicators marked with an “*” are included in Cluster Lite.
- Related professional development is listed under the indicators. For descriptions of the professional development, please refer to the Comprehensive System of Professional Development section.
- General notes about the data analyzed in this report can be found in the Data Explanations section.

Component CF.1*: Do family supports, services and resources enhance outcomes for infants and toddlers and their families?

Overview Answer: We are unable to answer this question based on existing data.
Strengths: The Missouri First Steps training system included parents as a part of the training team. Families are involved throughout the First Steps process and have been actively involved in all redesign activities. A survey of families six months post exit from the First Steps system will attempt to gather information on this component.
Areas of Concern: Missouri does not currently have any data that addresses this component.
Other Comments: There is a national debate concerning how to document family-centered services and how the services enhance outcomes for infants and toddlers. Missouri currently interprets family-centered practices as having families involved throughout the First Steps system. Examples include involvement with statewide committees, using parents as trainers as well as parents being involved in their child's education.

LIST THE QUESTIONS THE COMMITTEE STUDIED AND THE DATA SOURCES REVIEWED	SUMMARIZE THE CURRENT STATUS AND CONCLUSIONS FOR THIS QUESTION																					
<p>CF.1.1*: Do families report that early intervention services have increased their family’s capacity to enhance their child’s development?</p> <p>Data Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solutions Study• Draft Survey	<p>Data Summary:</p> <p>Currently there is no data collected from families. The Solutions study, which surveyed 73 families who had exited First Steps and 120 enrolled families is the most recent data, but is now three years old. A follow-up survey of families will be implemented that will collect baseline information from families six months post exit.</p> <p>Committee Conclusions:</p> <p>The state needs to collect, review and analyze the pilot survey data. The questions and format will be revised based on input. Discussions are underway with the CFO to determine an efficient method for ongoing collection of the information.</p>																					
<p>CF.1.2*: Are family-centered practices embedded in all aspects of early intervention process from initial identification through the child’s transition to Part B or other services? Are families involved in the IFSP process?</p> <p>Data Sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Solutions Study• Phase I Form <p>Related CSPD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Steps Modules – Orientation, Assessment and Eligibility, IFSP in Natural Environments, Movin’ On: Transition, Service Coordination• First Steps Bulletins	<p>Data Summary:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Solutions Study</p> <p>Family responses to specific questions asked during the Solutions study were as follows:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Exited families:</p> <p>I feel I was listened to and that my opinion was valued by my service providers—76 percent responded agree/strongly agree</p> <p>I feel I was listened to and that my opinion was valued by my service coordinator—75 percent responded agree/strongly agree</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Enrolled families:</p> <p>I was offered a chance to discuss my concerns and priorities for my child—94 percent responded Yes</p> <p>I had a choice about how I could be involved in the evaluation or assessment—73 percent responded Yes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Enrolled families:</p> <table><tr><th>Item</th><th>Agree</th><th>Strongly Agree</th></tr><tr><td>I was given enough information about service options so that I could make choices about the services</td><td>44%</td><td>43%</td></tr><tr><td>My First Steps team really listens to me</td><td>34%</td><td>39%</td></tr><tr><td>I am given time to talk about my experiences and things that are important to me</td><td>35%</td><td>41%</td></tr><tr><td>I am treated as the true expert about my child when planning and providing services</td><td>40%</td><td>39%</td></tr><tr><td>Parents are asked to share their knowledge and perception of their family concern, priorities, and resources.</td><td>54%</td><td>22%</td></tr><tr><td>Parents are asked to share their knowledge and perception of their child's current and emerging skills, abilities and interests</td><td>49%</td><td>28%</td></tr></table>	Item	Agree	Strongly Agree	I was given enough information about service options so that I could make choices about the services	44%	43%	My First Steps team really listens to me	34%	39%	I am given time to talk about my experiences and things that are important to me	35%	41%	I am treated as the true expert about my child when planning and providing services	40%	39%	Parents are asked to share their knowledge and perception of their family concern, priorities, and resources.	54%	22%	Parents are asked to share their knowledge and perception of their child's current and emerging skills, abilities and interests	49%	28%
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<p>CF.1.2*: Concluded</p>	<p>Standard individualized family service plan (IFSP) forms include worksheets for the family to complete as preparation for the IFSP meeting. Service coordination reimbursement has been designed to allow for individualized pacing with each family. Families represent approximately 28 percent of the membership for State Interagency Coordinating Councils (SICCs) and families are part of workgroups for policy/procedure development. All training provided through the regional system includes a family member as a co-trainer during 2002-2003.</p> <p>Committee Conclusions: Review of data indicates that currently there is no measure of families' perception of family-centered practices, however family-centered practices are embedded throughout First Steps process/forms.</p>